

Remarks

Single Connection

Each of the claims now presented has language requiring “a single logical connection” between the site and the inventive controller. Thus, the claims are limited such that more than one logical connection is **not** required. Basis for this limitation is found in the application as filed at least at page 8 lines 15-19, and Figures 5 – 7.

By contrast, Kitai Figure 17, and Kitai Figure 3 which is referenced in the discussion of Figure 17 at column 14 lines 21 – 51, **requires multiple** such connections. See also Kitai column 5 lines 40 – 57, discussing “a plurality of virtual channels present” from the server 3000.

Kitai’s approach requires special servers. Servers having a single outgoing connection will not operate as taught by Kitai. By contrast, special servers having multiple connections or multiple buffers (e.g., Kitai buffers 6031, 6032, 6033) are not required by the present invention. Servers having a single outgoing connection will operate fine with the present claimed invention.

No Packet Segmentation

The Office Action asserts on page 2 that Kitai teaches dividing a message between networks. However, careful reading of the cited discussion reveals that Kitai teaches splitting packets, not splitting messages. Kitai splits packets into segments based on segment lengths specified by an application; see, e.g., column 14 lines 36 – 41.

By contrast, one finds no such packet segmentation requirement anywhere in the present application. One of skill reading the claims previously presented would also have understood that segmentation of packets is not involved, because the claims and the specification speak of sending “packets” not packet segments, and they speak of splitting a “message” not of splitting a packet. However, to make this point absolutely crystal clear, the claims are amended to expressly state that packet segmentation is not required.

No Firewall Needed

Dutta teaches away from a known load balancer that “receives a packet of information, performs some analysis on the packet to select a destination server, and then

forwards the packet to the selected server” (column 1 lines 15 – 28). After discussing disadvantages of this approach, Dutta teaches use of load balancing using a firewall. See, e.g., column 4 line 63 – column 5 line 30.

By contrast, one finds no such firewall requirement anywhere in the present application. One of skill reading the claims previously presented would accordingly have understood that a firewall is not involved. However, to make this point absolutely crystal clear, the claims are amended to expressly state that a firewall is not required.

Conclusion

In view of the above, Applicants submit that each of pending claims is patentable, and request their prompt allowance. The fact that this Amendment is silent as to any particular statement of the Office does not indicate agreement with that statement. Previous arguments are not waived. Applicants also expressly reserve all arguments not made here.

The undersigned is available for a telephone conference at the Examiner’s convenience.

Dated April 22, 2009.

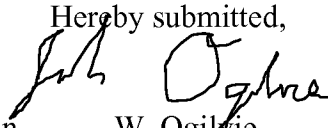
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CERTIFICATE OF SUBMISSION

I hereby certify that this Amendment is being submitted to the USPTO, through EFS-WEB, on April 22, 2009.



Hereby submitted,



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